

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
INFO USLO RIYADH PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 039638

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, OVIP, SA

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO SAG MINISTER OF HEALTH

REF: STATE 032084; JIDDA 1122; JIDDA 0564; STATE 246035

1. HEW SECRETARY CALIFANO PLEASED TO RENEW INVITATION TO
EALTH MINISTER AL-GEZAIKY. TEXT OF LETTER OF INVITATION
FOLLOWS. ORIGINAL WILL BE POUCHED TO EMBASSY FOR DELIVERY.

2. HIS EXCELLENCY HUSSEIN AL-GEZAIKY
MINISTER OF HEALTH
RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

DEAR MR. MINISTER:
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UPON ASSUMING MY DUTIES AS SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION
AND WELFARE, I LEARNED THAT FORMER SECRETARY MATHEWS HAD
INVITED YOU TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES AS HIS GUEST. IT
GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO RENEW THAT INVITATION.

I UNDERSTAND THAT OFFICIALS OF OUR EMBASSY IN JIDDA HAVE

DISCUSSED WITH YOU A PROGRAM THAT WOULD ENABLE YOU TO VISIT MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND TO LEARN ABOUT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC HEALTH. WE WILL, OF COURSE, BE HAPPY TO REVISE THIS PROGRAM TO SUIT YOUR SPECIFIC INTERESTS. PLEASE LET ME KNOW OF THINGS YOU WOULD PARTICULARLY LIKE TO SEE IN THE UNITED STATES, AND WE WILL BE PLEASED TO MAKE THE BEST ARRANGEMENTS POSSIBLE.

IT WOULD BE CONVENIENT IF YOU, AND TWO OR THREE OF YOUR COLLEAGUES, COULD VISIT US IN LATE MARCH OR EARLY APRIL. I HOPE THESE DATES ARE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU IN WASHINGTON.

SINCERELY, JOSEPH A. CALIFANO, JR.

3. FUNDING OF VISIT WILL BE AS BEFORE: (A) AID TO COVER INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL LONDON-WASHINGTON-LONDON AND DOMESTIC U.S. TRAVEL AND (B) BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS TO PROVIDE PER DIEM OF DOLS 55 FOR MINISTER AND DOLS 45 FOR UP TO THREE AIDES AND LIMOUSINE SERVICE WHEN NECESSARY. SELECTED FIRMS IN MEDICAL SERVICES FIELD TO PROVIDE HOSPITALITY TO MINISTER'S PARTY AT SOME STOPS EN ROUTE. AID SECTION 661 FUNDING AUTHORITY IS CONTINGENT UPON DETERMINATION BY EMBASSY THAT THERE IS A REASONABLE EXPECTATION THAT VISIT COULD RESULT IN SOME FUTURE REQUEST FOR REIMBURSABLE USG TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN HEALTH-RELATED FIELD. REQUEST EMBASSY CONSIDER THIS POINT BEFORE EXTENDING INVITATION AND PROVIDE US WITH YOUR VIEWS. IF IN YOUR JUDGMENT THERE IS A REASONABLE EXPECTATION THAT SUCH A

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REQUEST COULD FOLLOW VISIT, YOU MAY EXTEND INVITATION WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY. HUMMON AND STURT AT USREP ARE IN CONTACT WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH CONCERNING POSSIBLE JOINT COMMISSION ACTIVITY IN THE HEALTH AREA. TO ENSURE USG ACTIVITIES ARE COORDINATED, RECOMMEND EMBASSY APPRISE USREP OF THE ABOVE. (FYI: TREASURY OSAA REP HAS ATTENDED TUESDAY ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING TO DISCUSS COORDINATING MINISTER'S PROGRAM. WE ANTICIPATE THAT MINISTER WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AID DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF HEALTH TO ACQUAINT MINISTER WITH AID ACTIVITIES ABROAD IN MEDICAL SERVICES FIELD, AND THAT HE WILL ALSO CALL ON TREASURY FOR BRIEF OVERVIEW OF JEC ACTIVITIES IN SAUDI ARABIA. END FYI)

4. PREFERRED DATE OF ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON IS SUNDAY, MARCH 27. EARLIER MARCH ARRIVAL NOT FEASIBLE DUE TO HEW INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER MINISTERIAL VISIT. EMBASSY SHOULD REVIEW EARLIER PROPOSED ITINERARY (76 STATE 246035) WITH MINISTER AND SOLICIT HIS VIEWS AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY.

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